

Abbreviations and Acronyms

A/C Aircraft

AM Amplitude Modulation

AMVER Automated Mutual-assistance Vessel Rescue

AOR Area of Responsibility

ATC Air Traffic Control
ATON Aids To Navigation

C Course

C Coverage Factor

C/C Cabin Cruiser

CO Commanding Officer

COLREGS International Regulations for Prevention of Collisions at Sea.

CS Call Sign

CS Creeping Line Search

CSC Creeping Line Search - Coordinated

CSP Commence Search Point

DF Direction Finding

DGPS Differential Global Positioning System

DIW Dead In The Water

DMB Datum Marker Buoy

DR Dead Reckoning

DSC Digital Selective Calling

EMT Emergency Locator Transmitter
EMT Emergency Medical Technician

EPIRB Emergency Position-Indicating Radio Beacon



ETA Estimated Time of Arrival

ETD Estimated Time of Departure

F/V Fishing Vessel

FM Frequency Modulation

GMDSS Global Maritime Distress and Safety System

GPM Gallons Per Minute

GPS Global Positioning System

HF High Frequency

I/B Inboard

I/O Inboard/Outdrive

ICS Incident Command System

ICW Intracoastal Waterway

IMO International Maritime Organization

INMARSAT International Monitoring Satellite Organization

KHz Kilohertz

Kn or Kt Knot (Nautical Mile Per Hour)

Lat Latitude

LKP Last Known Position

LNB Large Navigation Buoy

Lon or Long Longitude

LOP Line of Position

m Meter

M Magnetic CourseM/V Merchant Vessel

MEDEVAC Medical Evacuation

MF Medium Frequency

MHz Megahertz



MLB Motor Lifeboat

NM Nautical Mile

NOS National Ocean Service

NVG Night Vision Goggles

O/B Outboard

OIC Officer-In-Charge; also OINC

OOD Officer of the Deck (Day)

OPAREA Operating Area

OSC On-Scene Commander

P/C Pleasure Craft

PFD Personal Flotation Device

PIW Person In Water

PML Personnel Marker Light

POB Persons On Board

POD Probability of detection

POS Probability of success

PS Parallel Sweep Search

PSI Pounds per Square Inch

RACON Radar Beacon

RCC Rescue Coordination Center

RHIB Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat

RPM Revolution Per Minute

RSC Rescue Sub-Center

S/S Steam Ship

S/V Sailing Vessel

SAR Search and Rescue

SARSAT Search and Rescue Satellite-Aided Tracking

SITREP Situation Report



SMC Search And Rescue Mission Coordinator

SOA Speed of Advance

SRB Surf Rescue Boat (Coast Guard)

SRU Search and Rescue Unit

SS Expanding Square Search

True Course

TS Track Line Search or Trach Spacing

UHF Ultra High Frequency

UMIB Urgent Marine Information Broadcast

USWMS Uniform State Waterway Marking System

UTB Utility Boat (Coast Guard)

UTC Universal Time Coordinated

VHF Very High Frequency

VS Sector Search

W Sweep Width